

## Letter from Alexander Graham Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, Carrie Bell, 1871, with transcript

Copy of a letter written by Alexander Graham Bell to his mother and Carrie. Northampton, Mass., Wednesday afternoon (1871). Dear Mama and Carrie:

I remained in Boston over Tuesday in order to get a glimpse of Papa. He arrived earlier than I had expected and he came out to Newton Lower Falls to have a look at “the family” — I had invited my Newton friends to a farewell supper and I hoped Papa would have been able to join us in sociabilities — but he was obliged to run away at nine o'clock. You will be glad to hear that the Lecture before the Social Science Association went off splendidly. I enclose three notices of the Exhibition which p lease preserv e.

It has been decided that Miss Dudley will go to Canada. I have spoken for you and Carrie as to the reception she will meet with. It is a very hard thing for Mrs. and Mr. Dudley to part with her — but they are as convinced as I am that it is for her good. I have consented to stay here till Friday that Mrs. Dudley may see a little of her daughter before parting once more.

We shall arrive in Brantford on Saturday — by the new line from Harrisburg. I shall write again tomorrow and specify time. I hope you can give Miss Dudley either Mama's or Carrie's room. Her mother would certainly wish her to have a w arm room she could sit in at any time — because she is not very strong. I am sure Carrie will find Miss Dudley quite a companion. She is a very amiable girl — about 17 — and has never been separated from those at home before. 2 I had said nothing to her about coming to Canada. When her father asked her what she thought of it — she said she would like to go — “I want to go home and see dear Mama very much — but I want to talk well too.”

If she has Carrie's room — Carrie can have mine and I can go downstairs or anywhere.

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I trust all are now quite strong.

With much love, Aleck.